

Remarks

Applicant has amended the specification so that its arrangement conforms to the guidelines in the MPEP. As part of this amendment, applicant has added appropriate section headings, deleted the paragraph at line 10 on page 2 of the application as filed, added a word which is inadvertently missing from the paragraph at lines 5-9 on page 3 of the application as filed and deleted a word from paragraph which was inadvertently in the English language translation of the German priority application. Applicant has amended the Abstract as filed to remove therefrom the reference numerals and improper wording such as "The invention relates to." Applicant submits that none of these amendment introduce new matter.

Applicant has amended Figs. 1 and 2 as filed to label each of the functional boxes with their function. A formal drawing for these figures will be submitted upon the receipt of the Notice of Allowability for this application.

Applicant has canceled independent method claim 1 and has added new independent claim 2 to a method of shutting down each of one or more pluggable electrical units in a modular system comprising a base unit and one or more pluggable electrical units inserted and locked in said base unit, said base unit supplying electrical power to each of said one or more inserted and locked pluggable units inserted in said base unit. The method comprises:

- unlocking each of the one or more inserted and locked pluggable units to be unplugged from the base unit;

- actuating during the unlocking a switch located on each of the base units for each of the one or more inserted and locked pluggable units to be unplugged;

- terminating communication operations in progress between the base unit and the one or more inserted and locked pluggable units to be unplugged; and

- terminating electrical power supplied from the base unit

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to each of the inserted and locked pluggable units to be unplugged.

The Objection to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the specification because its arrangement does not conform to the guidelines set forth in the MPEP. Applicant has amended the specification so that it conforms to the MPEP guidelines and thus requests reconsideration of this objection.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to Figs. 1 and 2 because the functional boxes therein are not labeled with their function names. Applicant has amended Figs. 1 and 2 to so label the functional boxes with the function described for each of them in the application as filed and thus requests reconsideration of this objection.

The Rejection of the Claims

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,822,547 (Boesch). Applicant has canceled claim 1 without prejudice.

In support thereof the Examiner says that Boesch teaches all of the steps called for in claim 1 and specifically says that during the unlocking of the pluggable modular unit 14 of Boesch the switch 46 is activated.

As is described in the method taught and claimed by applicant in new independent claim 2, the pluggable units when inserted in the base unit are locked in the base unit and a switch located on each of the pluggable units to be unplugged from the base unit is actuated during the unlocking of the pluggable unit from the base unit. The location of the switch on each pluggable unit allows a pluggable unit to be unplugged from the base unit without disrupting the power and communications to the other pluggable units that are locked in the base unit and not to be unplugged from the base unit at the same time the one or more pluggable units to be unplugged from the base unit are unplugged.

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As is shown in Fig. 2 of Boesch the switch 46 is located in the computer and not in each pluggable modular unit. If in the computer shown in Boesch one wanted to have two modular bays and allow the device in each modular bay to be unplugged without disrupting the device in the other modular then from the teaching of Boesch there would have to be another switch 46 in the computer for the other device as Boesch does not teach, disclose or even suggest that each device have its own switch. U.S. Patent No. 6,026,458 (Rasums), which the Examiner has made of record but not relied upon, does not supply that teaching, disclosure or suggestion.

Therefore for the reasons given above applicant submits that new independent claim 2 is not anticipated by Boesch.

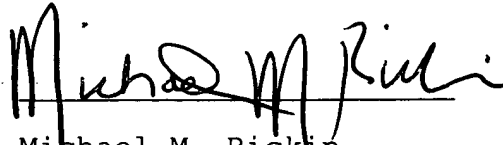
Reconsideration of the application in accordance with Rules 111 and 112 is requested.

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Following Page*****

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/18/04



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on the 18th day of February, 2004.

Respectfully, Debra A. Rietze

Date: February 18, 2004

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Attachment To Non-Fee Amendment Under Rule 111

Replacement sheets for the sheet having on it Fig. 1 of the application as filed and for the sheet having on it Fig. 2 of the application as filed.